Quota of PDS items to West Bengal

2069.SHRI BARUN MUKHERJI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of allocation of rice, wheat and kerosene for the PDS to West Bengal during 2004-08, with year-wise break-up;

(b) whether his Ministry is prepared to increase the quota for the current year to help the increasing number of BPL population of the State, if so requested by the State Government; and

(c) whether his Ministry would lower the prices of PDS items to help the poor and middle class people, in view of their hardships emanating from world-wise financial crises and recession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The commodity wise details are as follows.

Rice & Wheat: The allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for the Below Poverty Line (BPL) (including the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families to all the States/UTs on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission, projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India, as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration card issued by each State/UTs, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for BPL, including AAY, categories are made in full without any reduction @ 35 kg per family per month to all accepted number of 51.79 lakh families in the State of West Bengal. State Governments/UTs concerned are required to review the lists of BPL and AAY families every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families so that the numbers of BPL/AAY families are restricted to the number accepted by the Govt. of India.

The allocations under the TPDS are made at highly subsidized Central Issue Prices. In spite of higher procurement costs and higher international prices, CIPs have been maintained at same low level as was in July 2001 for AAY and BPL. There is no proposal to further lower the CIPs.

The details of the total quantum of allocation of rice and wheat made under the TPDS for the State of West Bengal during 2004-05 to 2007-08 are as follows:

Year	Commodity	Quantity in Thousand tons
2004-05	Rice	1,537.924
	Wheat	4,511.796
2005-06	Rice	3,158.441
	Wheat	2,941.279
2006-07	Rice	4,013.796
	Wheat	1,603.714
2007-08	Rice	1,397.976
	Wheat	1,625.228

Kerosene (SKO): Allocation of PDS SKO is made by the Government of India to different States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under PDS for cooking and illumination only. Further distribution within the States/UTs through their PDS network is the responsibility of the concerned States/UTs. The scale of distribution of PDS SKO per card holder varies from State to State. In accordance with the policy adopted by the Government of India in 2000, SKO allocation for distribution under the PDS was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/UT. There has been no reduction in the PDS SKO to State/UTs after the financial year 2004-05. For the years 2005-06 to 2007-08, allocation have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year. Allocations for the first three quarters of 2008-09 have also been maintained at the same level.

The details of the quantities of PDS SKO allocation made to the State of West Bengal during 2004-05 to 2007-08 are as under:

Year	Quantities in tons
2004-05	7,48,228
2005-06	7,52,103
2006-07	7,52,103
2007-08	7,52,103

Consumer complaints in Gujarat

2070.SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of complaints received by the consumer courts in Gujarat during 2006 and 2007, year-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during that period, year-wise; and

(c) the total number of accumulated cases pending for disposal at the end of 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The total number of complaints received by the Consumer Fora in Gujarat, during 2006 and 2007, year-wise as informed by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), is as follows:

Year	State Commission	District Forum	Total
2006	2294	16896	19190
2007	2565	11741	14306

(b) The number of cases disposed off during the period, year-wise as informed by NCDRC, is as follows:

Year	State Commission	District Forum	Total
2006	1888	16116	18004
2007	1618	10382	12000